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Application No.: 10/567,366  
Art Unit 1791

Attorney Docket No. 0033-1062PUS1  
Reply to Office Action dated December 11, 2008  
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Amendments to the Claims

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A press belt in a press comprising a rotatively traveling endless press belt and pressing means located inside the periphery and/or outside the periphery of said press belt,

said press belt including terminal corresponding areas corresponding to both ends of said pressing means in the cross direction and a central area located between said terminal corresponding areas, and

mainly composed of thermosetting polyurethane obtained from a thermosetting polyurethane material containing a phenylene isocyanate derivative having an isocyanate group (NCO) on an end and a hardener having an active hydrogen group (H) on an end, wherein

the equivalent ratio (H/NCO) between said active hydrogen group (H) and said isocyanate group (NCO) is set relatively high on said terminal corresponding areas and relatively low on said central area,

wherein the value of said equivalent ratio (H/NCO) is at least 1.01 and not more than 1.14 on said terminal corresponding areas and at least 0.85 and less than 1.08 on said central area.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A press belt in a press comprising a rotatively traveling endless press belt and pressing means located inside the periphery and/or outside the periphery of said press belt,~~

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~~said press belt including terminal corresponding areas corresponding to both ends of said pressing means in the cross direction and a central area located between said terminal corresponding areas, and~~

~~mainly composed of thermosetting polyurethane obtained from a thermosetting polyurethane material containing a phenylene isocyanate derivative having an isocyanate group (NCO) on an end and a hardener having an active hydrogen group (H) on an end, wherein the equivalent ratio (H/NCO) between said active hydrogen group (H) and said isocyanate group (NCO) is set relatively high on said terminal corresponding areas and relatively low on said central area~~  
The press belt according to claim 3, wherein the difference in hardness between said central area and said terminal corresponding areas is less than 1 degree in type A durometer hardness.

5. (Currently Amended) The press belt according to claim [[1]]3, wherein the thickness on said terminal corresponding areas is smaller than the thickness on said central area.

6. (Currently Amended) The press belt according to claim [[1]]3, wherein a large number of cavities are formed on the outer peripheral surface over said central area and said terminal corresponding areas.

7. (Previously Presented) The press belt according to claim 6, wherein the cavities located on said terminal corresponding areas are deeper with respect to the depth of said cavities

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located on said central area.

8. (Currently Amended) A shoe press roll comprising an outer cylinder formed by an endless press belt and a pressure shoe serving as pressing means located inside the periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said outer cylinder is the press belt according to claim [[1]]3.

9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A shoe press roll comprising an outer cylinder formed by an endless press belt and a pressure shoe serving as pressing means located inside the periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said outer cylinder is the press belt according to claim 3.

13. (Previously Presented) A shoe press roll comprising an outer cylinder formed by an endless press belt and a pressure shoe serving as pressing means located inside the periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said outer cylinder is the press belt according to claim 4.

14. (Previously Presented) A shoe press roll comprising an outer cylinder formed by an endless press belt and a pressure shoe serving as pressing means located inside the periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said outer cylinder is the press belt according to claim 5.

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15. (Previously Presented) A shoe press roll comprising an outer cylinder formed by an endless press belt and a pressure shoe serving as pressing means located inside the periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said outer cylinder is the press belt according to claim 6.

16. (Previously Presented) A shoe press roll comprising an outer cylinder formed by an endless press belt and a pressure shoe serving as pressing means located inside the periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said outer cylinder is the press belt according to claim 7.